

**МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ ФОНД
СОЦИАЛЬНО-ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИХ
И ПОЛИТОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ
ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ
(ГОРБАЧЕВ—ФОНД)**

**THE INTERNATIONAL
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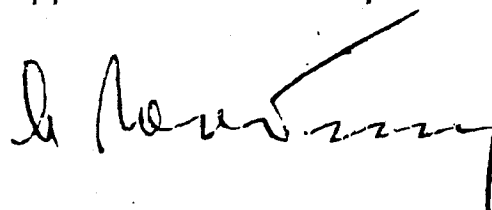
The following is the text of Mikhail Gorbachev's tribute to Ronald Reagan on the occasion of the award of the Congressional Gold Medal:

The award of the Gold Medal of US Congress to Ronald Reagan is a fitting tribute to the fortieth president of the United States, who will go down in history as a man profoundly dedicated to his people and committed to the values of democracy and freedom.

Together with Ronald Reagan, we took the first, the most important steps to end the cold war and start real nuclear disarmament. It was not easy to break the ice of mistrust that had been building up for decades. But at our very first meeting in Geneva I felt the president's readiness for dialogue. This honest and respectful dialogue eventually bore fruit. The human rapport between us and our families continued after we completed our duties in government.

On this important occasion I salute Ronald Reagan. My warmest greetings to Nancy Reagan and members of the Reagan family, whose care and support have been so important to Ronald during the past few years. I am confident that succeeding generations will duly appreciate the accomplishments of President Reagan.

Mikhail Gorbachev



March 15, 2000